

Remarks

Currently pending in the present application are claims 1-3, 5-6 and 9-15. Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to include the limitations of claim 4; thus, claim 4 has been canceled without prejudice. Claim 3 has been amended by replacing "Y" with "U". Support for this amendment can be found at, for example, page 3, paragraph 7. No new matter has been added. In view of the above amendments and following remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration by the Examiner, and advancement of the application to allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has indicated claim 4 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for this allowance.

Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to include the limitations of claim 4. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit these claims, and all claims depending on these claims are now allowable.

35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to clearly define D_1 . In addition, claim 3 has been amended by replacing "Y" with "U". Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. §§ 102/103

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 5 and 6 as being anticipated by Tzikas et al. (US 6,537,332). The Examiner also rejected claims 9-15 as being obvious over Tzikas et al.

As noted above, claims 1 and 10 have been amended to include the limitations of claim 4. Applicants respectfully request these rejections are moot.

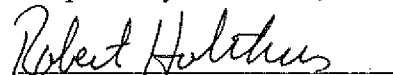
Double Patenting

The Examiner provisionally rejected claims 1, 2, 9 and 12 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 4, 7 and 10 of Application No. 10/551,319. In view of the above amendment to claim 1 and 10, Applicants respectfully submit this rejection is moot.

Should any fee be due in connection with the filing of this document, the Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to deduct said fee from Huntsman Corporation Deposit Account No. 08-3442.

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Respectfully Submitted,



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Date: 3/16/09